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SIBERIAN EXPRESS

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September 1983 Vol. 3 No. 4

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Rehabilitation

or

Warehousing

THANK YOU

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Native American Brothers and other friends, staff and supervisors here at the Montana State Prison who made it possible for me to attend my father's funeral in Browning Montana. Also my family wishes to express their thanks to all of you for making it possible for us to be together in our time of sorrow.

Also, a special thanks to Officer Phillip Ferro, who was my escort to and from Browning during the funeral of my departed father, George H. Trombley, Sr.

A very special warm thanks to all.

George W. Trombley, Jr., A016635

To The Ladies

Much credit is due the ladies of W.C.C. for their continued support and unending cooperation. Not only do they submit material faithfully, every month, from the other end of the valley, they do it with very little aid from us.

In July, when a lettering order looked as if it would over draw our account, Peggy Donahue and Deborah Hintz sent the Siberian Express a $20 donation that once again fattened the account into the black.

Here's to the ladies, and compliments to the W.C.C. director Steve MacAskill, for his cooperation in allowing the ladies to share their ideas and contributions.

THE STAFF

The Siberian Express is published monthly by and for the inmates at Montana State Prison. Views expressed in this publication are not to be construed as those of the Montana Department of Institutions, any other state agency, program, the editor, or staff of the Siberian Express. Responsibility for the originality of an article, illustration or short story must be that of the writer and cannot be assumed by the editor or the staff of the Siberian Express.

Permission to reprint any article is given as long as credit is given to the author.

And To Larry VosKamp

The Siberian Express would like to thank A-Unit counselor, Larry VosKamp for his recent donation of a 35mm camera.

For a printed publication to function within the realms of journalism, photos of the events, interviews and sports activities are a necessity.

The past few months have seen the Express without the use of a functioning camera, and with Larry's donation better quality for the Sibrian Express is sure to follow.

Letters To The Editor

To the Editor;

I have read my July issue cover to cover and will no doubt read it again, and refer to it in the future as I do my other issues. I was totally impressed by July's content. My compliments to Hilton and Michaels.

In the article 'Silent Rights,' in order to provide TV view-to the hearing-impaired prison community, how many adapter units would be required?

In 'The Last Word' line: 'We want a Publication we can be proud of, etc,. My comment: You have that in your July issue. I realize the involvement you seek is that of the prison community. However, as a reader-subscriber and private citizen I just had to extend my comments and compliments.

Ms. Florence A. Loewen, Missoula, Montana

ED. NOTE: As a personal campaign, I would like to acquire at least one Telecaptioning adaptor for use by the two profoundly deaf inmates. Once the value of these devices can be realized, perhaps funding can be had from the inmate controled 'Inmate Welfare Fund' or the prison administration for additional units as may be required.

Concerned individuals should co-ordinate through the Siberian Express office for this worthwhile project. Ed.

(continued on page 39)

LAW & RIGHTS

BY LES HOWARD

RIGHT TO REHABILITATION?

A recent case in the courts could have a potentially devastating affect on every state in the Union. The question? Can states place convicted felons in prison without making any effort to rehabilitate them?

The case stems from an injunction, won by Arkansas prisoners prohibiting incarceration without providing meaningful rehabilitative opportunities, or implementing a plan for rehabilitation including adequate educational, vocational, medical and other programs for all inmates of the institution operated self help groups. (46 American Bar Asso. Journal 499)

The notion of a 'right to rehabilitation' seems to have come as a development of the phrase, 'right to treatment,' in the area of civil commitment. (46 American Bar Asso. Journal 499)

Rehabilitation, defined by Webster's, denotes restoration to a former capacity; to restore to a good state of efficency, good management, or; to restore to a good condition of health or useful and constructive activity. Thus we must defer to the original question, raising another, even more direct: Is the Montana State Prison designed to rehabilitate - to restore to constructive activity - its inmates?

According to title 53-30-101 of the Montana Code Annotated as implemented by the legislative body; 'The institution at Deer Lodge is the state prison and its primary function pro-

vides facilities for the custody, treatment, training and Rehabilitation of adult criminal offenders.'

Because that is the law, that is our right.

Further, to emphasize the point made regarding the injunction by Arkansas Prisoners, we have the following statutes that document the case in Montana:

1. Statute 53-30-107, MCA: Establishment of intensive rehabilitation center authorized..
   A. Within the budgetary limits provided by law, the Department of Institutions may establish on property owned by the state on which facilities are or may be located a prison facility designed to segregate certain types of prisoners. (This does not mean Administrative Segregation - PC)
2. Statute 53-30-108: Standards of admission to intensive rehabilitation center.
   A. The facility shall be designed and known as the intensive rehabilitation center, and shall be the place of custody for those inmates, who in consideration of their age, type of crime for which committed, physical condition, behavior, attitude and prospects of reformation are those most likely to benifit from such place of custody.

At this time there is no such facility in existance, as it is is known, and there as been no comment given by the legislative session that there will be one. (EDITOR'S NOTE: A bill to repeal sections 53-30-107 and 53-30-108 and related sections, was signby the Speaker of the House on Febuary 19, 1983, it has yet to come into effect. Unofficial comments note that the intensive rehabilitaion center the statutes speak of, was simply another name for a maximum security building, wanted so long by the institution.)

While there is no concrete effort made to fulfill statute 53-30-101, the warehousing of prisoners will continue. So much so, that recent figures from the Bureau of Justice Statistics place the U.S. prison population well over the 400,000 mark, the increase from 1981 to 1982 of more than 41,000 inmates was the largest in U.S. history.

In light of this increase, the old adage of prisons being places of rehabilitation have not been justified.

Rehabilitation is not a new concept when applied to prisons. In the book, The Effectivness of a Prison and Parole System 1964, page 252, the author acknowledges the problems of the 'work house' attitude of earlier correctional goals:

'Rehabilitation is almost impossible when the prisons is

geared to punishment or manufacturing goods.For example,at the prison factory at Atlanta, 1200 to 1500 men are employed in the manufacture of mail bags and other products used by the federal government. The total population of the prison is approximately 2200. This means that there is no work release programs and no opportunities for honest correction; since most of the population is needed in the prison sweat shop...If a convict manages to rehabilitate himself while sewing mail bags, he would probably not succeed due to failure of the prison to prepare him for release.'

There is significant difference between current programs and those of just 10 years ago. The earlier programs smothered offenders in services in order to rehabilitate them. The present cycle of justice, allows newer programs to call on prisoner involvement in groups in order to satisfy the criteria of various parole boards. Does that sound familiar?

While the inmates of Atlanta had the mail bag operation to keep them going, here and now, the kitchen is available to all.

It should come as no surprise that prisoners generally lack educational and vocational skills. Whether this is due to the greater propensity of the uneducated and unemployed to commit crimes, or to their greater likelihood of being caught, the fact remains that the prison population contains a disproportionate number of people in need of education and vocational training.

Prisons were not designed to be educational institutions.Any prison design, concentrating on the custodial function and obsessive needs for security, does not lend itself readily to being used for academic programs.

The whole tone of this institution communicates its purpose, and that purpose is not educational. Although there are reported plans to increase vocational programs via new buildings, and further reported funding for special educational programs, they remain 'in the future', or on paper as so many programs before.

In the past efforts to train inmates, conflict arose with the feelings of prison personnel. Prisons exist to punish and deter criminals. The presence of programs to update and innovate a prisoner's skills are seen by some to interfere with the 'necessary' prison schedules.

While the courts have ruled consistantly that prisoners have no right to wages for worked performed, the profits of various prison industries depend upon paying the prison laborers extremely low wages. A case taken from the 4th Circiut in Sept., 1969, notes the following: 'There is no constitutional requirement that prisoners be paid at all for work performed during the terms of imprisonment.' MacLaughlin vs Royser No. 13,881.

Taking advantage of our status of dependence by paying no more than a few cents a day, state government is able to obtain products inexpensively. At the same time they have solved the prison labor issue. However, the past reluctance of state legislature to invest in capital equipment, seemingly because the prison has a surplus of cheap labor, insures that prisoners work at outmoded machinery, and in inefficient techniques.

The skills acquired in prison will not relate to demands made upon employees by private industries, once released. The whole practice is at best marking time for prisoners, and more often is a waste, and certainly no help in our rehabilitation. The alternative to unrealistic work for little pay is make-work or no work at all. The President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administrative Jusice task force says the following regarding their perceptions of prisons in our society today:

> 'One who visits prisons commonly sees prisoners in bed doing nothing, mulling about the courtyards doing nothing exercising, or just doing nothing at all. That most employment in prison consists in simple housecleaning, and that the maintenance of the institution overcomes the purpose of its existence.'

Statute 53-30-101 of the Montana Code Annotated states the following: '...and its primary function provides facilities for custody, treatment, training, and REHABILITATION of adult criminal offenders.'

Is the Montana State Prison in the ludicrous position of training prisoners for jobs in a highly competetive society as swampers and kitchen workers?

For many the truth remains, most of the time spent here is wasted.

The Measure Of Rehabilitation

by David Michaels

Is rehabilitation measured out of Montana State Prison in sufficient quantities to confirm that state laws are being upheld? How do prison authorities, the Board of Pardons, or the inmates, know when rehabilitation has been achieved? The word itself lacks details of its application, though its meaning is clear. It could be that the statutes in the Montana Code Anno-

tated are intentionally vague so as to make accontablility suspect, while retaining an air of civil responsibility by allowing 'rehabilitation' to dwell on the pages of the MCA.

'To restore to a state of efficiency, good management or solvency,' Webster tells us. Then by definition, there was something each of us lost when we came into prison under criminal sentences. Relative to society, our character is held in question, as is our moral conduct. These are spectrums of social behavior unrelated to time, yet time served is often the only factor in determining an inmate's suitability for release.

When it comes to sifting through the information about a pre-Parolee's restoration, through institutional training and education, does the Board of Pardons classify unaccredited programs as rehabilitative? Of course any educational improvement is stepping in the right direction,but without accreditation or certification, how may incarcerated students measure their abilities with society's students? To compete in today's job market, a person will need all the documentation of educational achievements that they can get. But if accredited programs were possible, it still would not be enough to out weigh the time barrier. The cry throughout is till, 'Give us the time.'

Gary Broyles, assistant to the Executive Secretary of the Board of Pardons, said that the board is most moved to release an offender after a large period of time had been served. He said, 'They really hate to see a guy do alot of time, and sometimes they feel a little guilty about a guy who comes up after doing six or seven years straight.'

Past television news reports focussing on the Board of Pardons, stated that the board strives to limit parole releases only to offenders that the board feels confident are ready to resume society's obligations. Confining release considerations to time periods was not in the best interests of the public,the reports related. The board is confined by state statute though, and can only see candidates for parole interviews when a portion of their time has elasped. A contradiction of realities.

CIVIL DISABILITY

Recording the facts of rehabilitation is necessary to gauge an inmate's progress within the institution. So too, are these facts needed for application to many jobs on the street. Proffessions such as barbers or waiters often require fitness hearings before licences to work are issued.

The State Liquor Authority of New York, required a hearing for an ex-offender who was applying for a job as a waiter in a restraurant that served alcoholic beverages. Although

he had spent three years clear of arrests and had a stable work history, the hearing board did not consider his records of rehabilitation as proof of his restored moral character. The opinion that alcohol induces criminal behavior in some, that the plaintiff had a criminal history, and that he was applying for licence to work around alcohol, made the hearing board's decision against the plaintiff. (Bergansky v. State of New York Liquor Authority, 39 A.D. 2d 849, 850)

In the Bergansky case, the term 'Civil Disability' was used in connection with the problems facing all ex-offenders when they seek employment. A disabled person by state definition is one who has an impairment of a physical or mental nature that can be diagnosed by a physician or appropriate specialist. (MCA 53-7-101). A developmentally disabled person is one who has a learning disability, suffers from mental retardation or a birth defect. A civilly disabled person would, by previous definitions, be one who had impairments pertaining to civil conduct, social unacceptance, poor educational background, no skills, alcoholism, drug addiction, or some other a-social or anti-social behavior or attitude. The diagnosis has already been made by the courts.

The crimes committed are a result of the disablity. The solution is akin to the treatment of other disabled persons. Restore the individual to former or better levels of performance; to rehabilitate them.

Standards for the care and treatment of the state recognized disabilities are covered in depth by statutes under the Department of Social and Rehabilitative Services. The only statutes applying to the civilly disabled are:

MCA 53-1-201, Purpose of the Department. The department shall utilize at maximum efficiency resources of the state in a coordinated effort to:

(2) Rehabilitate violators of the law;

(6) Rededicate the resources of the state to the productive independence of its now dependent citizens;

and the previouly mention Mca 53-33-101, describing the function of the Prison.

What is missing from these statutes is the ways and determination of what processes are to be considered rehabilitating to the civilly disabled, and what affect, if any, these newly acquired, or restored skills would have on the offender's time, their acceptance back into society, and the state's handling of their records with respects to future employment.

Some areas of civil disabilities are covered by sections pertaining to alcoholism, but only when the admitted alcoholic is non-felonious. Specific mention of treatment for offender

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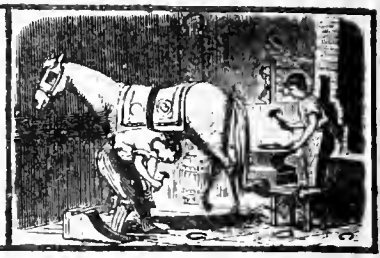
REHABILITATION

by

Peggy D. Donahue



'To those prisoners who, despite the fear of retaliation, continue to struggle to change our dehumanizing prison system.'

When I read the words, I knew he meant US and therefore from an American Civil Liberties Union handbook on 'The Rights of Prisoners,' I present the following excerpt on: 'Do prisoners have the right to education and training?'

No. One of the central vices of prison life is the enforced idleness that inmates must endure. Few prisons provide any meaningful rehabilitation opportunities; in most prisons psychiatric and psychological counseling are non-existent; and vocational training is plainly outdated and inadequate.

The gap between the rhetoric of correction-rehabilitations, education, training, treatment and the reality of prison life - idleness, despair, solitude, dehumanization - grows greater each year. The Manual of Correctional Standards of the American Correctional Association states that the prison's 'basic purpose' is; 'the rehabilitation of those sent there by society.' This sentiment is echoed in state statutes, prison regulations, court decisions, legislative reports, and other official pronouncements, but most prison officals continue to believe that 'rehabilitation' is achieved only when the prisoner accepts without question the authoritarian structure and policies of the institution. It should be made clear that we speak of rehabilitation in terms of the opportunity for education and training and not in terms of thought control or institutional comformity.

Despite the rhetoric, no court has directly held that a prisoner is entitled to rehabilitation. Nevertheless, court decisions in clearly analoguous areas have laid the ground work for what may eventually become a sucessful attack on the lack of rehabilitation services and programs in our prisons. Cases, including those in the Supreme Court involving commitments to mentals hospitals, juvenile jails, and other institutions have suggested that officials have a constitutional obligation to provide adequate treatment and/or rehabilitation programs for inmates of these institutions.

These decisions have been based on the theory that the sole reason for the commitment in the first place was for treatment removes the justification for incarceration. Of course, since prisons are meant to punish, prevent, and deter as well as rehabilitate, it is much more difficult to pursuade courts to apply this principle to the treatment of prisoners. But as rehabilitation becomes the primary purpose and rationale of incarceration, the logical extension of the 'right to treatment' cases is to require, as a constitutional matter, meaningful rehabilitation programs. At a minimum, prisons should provide inmates, were needed, with up-to-date vocational and educational training, and psychological and medical treatment.

In some cases, courts have indicated that the failure of a prison to provide rehabilitation opportunities may be considered in determining whether confinement in the institution amounts to cruel and unusual punishment. The leading case is Holt vs. Sarver, a class action that sought to upgrade Arkansas prison corrections, in which the court considered the constitutional necessity for rehabilitation in imprisonment of adult criminal offenders. In discussing the need for rehabilitative treatment, the court stated that it was not prepared to constitutionally require rehabilitative attempts as to convicts, but held:

> That, however, is not quite the end of the matter. The absence of an affirmative program for training for rehabilitation may have constitutional significance where in the absence of such a program conditions and practices exist which militate against reform and rehabilitation.

The Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit made a similar point in prohibiting imposition of corporal punishment when it declared that 'Corporal punishment generates hate toward the keepers who punish and towards the system which permits it...it frustrates correctional and rehabilitative goals.

In the same vein, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania has held that the lack of rehabilitative programs resulting in forced idleness was a factor that, considered with other substandard conditions, could constitute a system of cruel and unusual punishment. It has been successfully argued, building on these cases, that while a prison may not be required to provide educational and vocational programs, it is forbidden to allow conditions which make rehabilitation difficult to achieve. Thus the court ruled that a prison system could not constitutionally debilitate a person or render him less able to successfully reenter society.

Our Right To: Medical Treatment

by Kar'ren Hansen

It is my impression that most inmates as a whole do not know or understand their rights under present law. From this month on, I will be writing on legal rights in hope that being informed of our rights will encourage you to exercise the rights afforded to you by law. This column pertains to our medical rights.

Lack of adequate medical, dental, and psychiatric care is the rule in most penal institutions. The primary cause of this problem is most doctors and nurses in their specific fields have a more lucrative private practice than the penal system would afford them. Due to the thousands of men and women, only the most serious ailments are treated; other ailments are often ignored, or not thoroughly tested or treated.

The question is do prisoners have the right to be provided with medical care? Yes. An increasing number of suits have challenged the quality and nature of medical treatment afforded to prisoners, and the states have lost.

The United States Supreme Court has ruled that the government or prison officials must provide medical, dental and psychiatric care to those incarcerated. Deliberate indifference to a prisoners illness or injury, no matter the seriousness, constitutes cruel and unusual punishment.

Who decides what treatment a prisoner receives? Prison officials, unless negligence is shown, at which time the courts become involved. While the prisoner is not the ultimate judge of proper care, if negligence, indifference or mistreatment can be proven, a civil suit is in order.

Next month, I will be covering: 'Can greater change in the way prisoner's health care is delivered, be achieved by law suits.' Also, 'Are prisoners entitled to independent diagnostic care and treatment over and above that afforded by prison authorities.'

Hopefully this series of articles will be helpful and educational in some way to each one of us. If there is a question concerning legal rights, that anyone would like covered, I will research the specific right and will adress it in detail in future articles.

Board Of Pardons'

GUIDE TO PAROLE

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INTRODUCTION

The Board of Pardons of the State of Montana is an autonomous body attached to the Department of Institutions for administrative purposes only. The Board has the authority to grant parole to those individuals who have reached eligibility under state statute. Other responsibilities of the board consist of a variety of functions: The Board of Pardons is the final authority in the granting of Supervised Release. The Board also makes recommendations to the governor's office in regard to pardons and commutations. For those parolees returned to prison as parole violators, the board is required to hold a revocation hearing.

The board is comprised of three part-time members and one alternate, also four full-time staff persons. Board members are appointed by the governor. The staff includes an Executive Secretary who is charge of administrative duties, a Hearing Examiner who assists in the functions of the Executive Secretary, and two secretaries.

ELIGIBILITY

Offenders shall serve one-half of their sentence minus good time before they will receive parole consideration. An inmate who is designated as a non-dangerous offender is eligible after he has served one-fourth of his sentence minus good time. The parole eligibilty date is set by statute. If an offender is so designated by the court, he will be required to serve his complete sentence minus good time without the opportunity for parole or supervised release.

Those inmates who are received with two or more sentences running consecutively, will automatically have those sentences combined before parole consideration unless the court stipulates otherwise. Sentences received after reception in the institution but prior to board appearance shall also be combined with initial sentence. An aditional sentence given after an appearance before the board will not be combined with the first sentence. In this case, each sentence will be considered separately, and the original sentence will expire before consideration for parole on the new sentence.

An inmate who is subject to a disciplinary action or who is in solitary confinement shall not be granted an appearance before the parole board.

Those inmates serving a life sentence may not be parole until they have served thirty years less good time.

A detainer or hold filed against an inmate shall not affect his appearance before the board. If and when the parole board desides to grant parole, the authority issuing the detainer shall be notified as to the approximate date of release.

PROCEDURE

The board meets on the last two consecutive working days of each month unless otherwise stipulated. Before ordering the parole of any prisoner the board must conduct an interview of the inmate, or in some cases an individual may be heard by the hearing examiner. Before initial appearance all individuals are required to fill out a parole application.

Reaching eligibility does not merit automatic parole. The board considers all relevant information from the time of admission into the institution regarding each prisoner in light of:

1. Whether his release would depreciate the seriousness of

his crime or promote disrespect for the law;

2. Whether his release would have a substantial adverse effect on institutional discipline;
3. Whether his continued correctional treatment, medical care or mental therapy or vocational or other training in the facility would substantially enhance his capacity to lead a law-abiding life when released at a later date.

The board must also consider:

1. Personality, maturity, stability, sense of responsibility, any apparent development in his personality which may promote or hinder his conformity to law;
2. The adequacy of the offender's parole plan;
3. The offender's ability and readiness to assume obligations and undertake responsibilities;
4. The offender's education and training;
5. The offender's family status and whether he has relatives who display an interest in him, or whether he has other close and constuctive associations in the community;
6. The offender's employment history, occupational skills and the stability of his past employment;
7. The type of residence,neighborhood or community in which the offender plans to live;
8. The offender's past use of narcotics and alcohol, his mental and physical makeup;
9. The offender's prior criminal record (including the nature and circumstances, recentness and frequency of previous offenses);
10. The offender's attitude toward law and authority;
11. The offender's institutional conduct, including whether he has received write-ups prior to his hearing or reconsideration for parole;
12. The offender's behavior and attitude during any previous probation or parole and recentness of such experience;
13. Any other factors the board determines to be relavant.

A General Policy of the board is to require confirmed employment or school and appropriate housing in each individual's Parole Plan. The board may use its discretion in granting Parole if the Prospect for employment is positive.

Any inmate with charges pending against him upon which no action has been taken will not be considered for Parole until after disposition of the charge.

HEARINGS AND DECISIONS

An inmate will systematically come before the Board of Pardons for an interview at the time fixed by law. Those interested may file with the executive secretary written communication which will be given consideration at the time of the first interview. Personal interviews may be made with the executive secretary by appointment.

All interviews and hearing before the board shall be conducted by the chairman of the board. The board may limit the length of the interview or hearing to accomodate its calendar.

Parole will not be granted if the record indicates that release would be incompatible with the best interest of society and the inmate. Factors such as economic hardships of dependents, illness or age of parents are not of themselves reasons for release on Parole.

The Parole Board will reach its own conclusions under the law as to the desirability of granting a release on Parole to any inmate. The decision of the board shall be placed in a report which may also contain any special conditions or terms required of the Parolee, and is placed in the inmate's folder. All information received by the Parole Board shall be kept on Permanent file.

A) The decision of the board shall be by majority vote. On occasion the board may make decisions with only two of its members Present.

B) When an inmate is denied Parole, he will be Promptly notified in writing by the Parole Board, and may reappear before the board on an appropriate date set by the board.

C) All orders of release on Parole shall be issued from the board with the signature of the chairman and the executive secretary.

SOCIAL INVESTIGATION

Prior to the granting of a Parole release, the board requires a thorough investigation into every inmate's:

1. Family background and social history;
2. Education;
3. Occupation;
4. Home to which he will return;

5. Community sentiment where the crime was committed;
6. Parole officer's summary;

Supplementing the above information, the board also has before it an FBI identification sheet, Prison conduct record, institutional conduct record, and all changes noted in the inmate's mental or moral condition.

In any consideration for release on Parole, the Board of Pardons will give more leniency to first-time offenders who have no Prior criminal record.

The board can also require a ninety (90) day clear conduct record before board appearance.

PAROLE PLAN PROCESSING

Prior to an appearance before the board, each inmate is required to fill out a Parole application form. After approval for Parole by the board, the individual attends a Pre-Parole session where the rules and regulations of Parole are explained to him. His Plan is then sent to the Parole office in the area where the Parolee Plans to reside. All Plans must be investigated and verified by the Parolee's designated Parole agent. Time elasped before and out-of-stateplan is returned to the board is usually sixty (60) to ninety (90) days. A Plan within Montana ordinarily is investigated within three to four weeks.

RESCISION HEARING

A rescision hearing is held when an inmate has been given a ticket and has been found guilty of serious rule infractions within the Prison Preceding release from the institution. At the rescision hearing an inmate is allowed to present arguments on whether the guilty finding is valid or not. The board at that time makes a decision to recind the Parole (set the inmate back for a number of months) or to allow the original decision to Parole the inmate to stand.

SUPERVISION

An inmate released on Parole shall be under supervision for

the maximum term for which he was subject to imprisonment. At any time after the expiration of his sentence less good time as provided by law, the Parole Board may release the parolee from active supervision if it determines the goals of the parolee have been met.

If and when a parole is granted, it is accepted, subject to the conditions, limitations and restrictions as imposed by the board and by statute.

Parole and Probation are granted subject to the following conditions, limitations and restrictions:

1. RELEASE: Upon release you are to go directly to your approved program and shall report to the Probation/Parole Officer or other designated person.

2. RESIDENCE: You shall not change your place of residence without first obtaining permission from your Supervising Officer.

3. TRAVEL: You shall not leave your assigned district without first obtaining written permission from your Supervising Officer. Your assigned district is:_____.

4. EMPLOYMENT AND/OR PROGRAM: You shall seek and maintain employment, or maintain a program approved by the Board of Pardons or Probation and Parole Bureau and shall not change such employment or program without first obtaining permission from your Supervising Officer.

5. REPORTS: You are required to submit a written monthly to your Supervising Officer on forms that will be provided, and shall personally contact your Probation/Parole Officer on dates and times specified.

6. INTOXICANTS: You shall not drink intoxicants to excess☐ You shall not drink any intoxicants nor will you frequent any place intoxicants are the chief item of sale☐

7. NARCOTICS: You shall not use, purchase, possess, give sell or administer any narcotic drugs, nor any dangerous drugs, unless prescribed to you by a licensed Physician. You shall submit to narcotic or drug testing as required by your Supervising Officer.

8. WEAPONS: You shall not own, possess or be in control of any firearm or deadly weapon, defined by state statute.

The Federal Gun Control Act of 1968 prohibits any person who is under indictment or has been convicted of a felony to possess or carry a firearm while engaged in any act or sporting activity such as hunting.

9. DEPT: You shall consult with your Supervising Officer and obtain permission before going into dept, engaging in business, purchasing property, or purchasing an automobile.

10. MARRIAGE: You shall inform your Supervising Officer prior to any change in marital status.

11. SEARCH: You shall, while on Parole, or during the period of your Probation if so stipulated by the court, submit to a search of your Person, automobile or Place of residence by a Probation/Parole Officer, at any time of the day or night with or without a warrant, upon reasonable cause as ascertained by a Probation/Parole Officer.

12. RESTITUTION: You shall make restitution in the amount of as directed by the court.

13. LAWS AND CONDUCT: You shall comply with all municipal, county, state and federal laws and ordinances and conduct yourself as a good citizen.

14. SPECIAL CONDITIONS: The Board of Pardons, the Sentencing Court or the Department of Institutions may require other and additional conditions to be met by the Parolee or Probationer.

SUPERVISED RELEASE PROGRAM

After an inmate works with his counselor and supervised release coordinator, the Parole board is then the final authority granting release. An inmate must be within 15 months* of Parole eligibility and at least served one-half his time to Parole eligibility.He must also Pass the supevised release mattrix which is administered by the supervised release coordinator. Supervised Release is more a Privilege than Parole and is granted only to the exceptional inmate for treatment, training or education. The candidate is required to show a good Performance

*NOTE: See MONTANA LAW this issue for updated law.

while in prison especially in the area of rehabilitation and should have a plan that provides for his specific needs; thus for a known alcoholic, treatment must be included in his plan. All treatment is designed to improve the inmate's position in society and his employability.This would also include intensive supervision by an outside sponsor.

Type of crime and past record are important components in granting a supervised release. Other important factors are institutional performance, a good prison record and a firm plan.

COMMUTATION

The board has the power and authority to recommend the granting of commutation to the governor's office.Commutation is simply the shortening of a sentence, and again is granted only to the most exceptional inmate. The board has the right to grant a commutation hearing, which the public is allowed and encouraged to attend. The individual is permitted to have testimony presented on his behalf, but may also encounter adverse arguments from opposing parties. After the hearing, the board recommends to the governor either to grant or deny commutation. Notice of public hearing must be published in a local newspaper prior to the hearing. The governor has the final authority in the granting of commutation. The number of commutations granted usually does not exceed two or three a year.

PARDON

Recommendations for pardon are another function of the Parole Board. Usually individuals who obtain pardon have been out of prison for some time and have been doing exceptionally well on parole or probation. There are numerous reasons an ex-offeder desires a pardon; for example, the job he is applying for requires a clean record. A pardon is the complete exoneration from any past criminal activity, and again is finalized by the governor.

REVOCATION HEARING

Any individual who violates his parole has the right to a

parole revocation hearing. If paroled within the state, he may request an on-site hearing prior to being sent back to the prison. At the on-site hearing, it is desided whether there are reasonable grounds to return the individual to prison. Upon returning to Montana State Prison, he is given a copy of his violation report and notified as to the time of board appearance. The individual is granted the right to postpone his revocation appearance if he has a legitimate reason. At the revocation hearing the parolee has the right to counsel. If he cannot finance legal assistance for himself, the board will deside if counsel is necessary and furnish it if deemed proper.

At the revocation hearing the specific violations are read with opportunity to deny or verify their accuracy. The conduct of the revocation hearing will be determined by the board. A transcript will be made of both the hearing and the decision rendered, and a copy of this transcript will be forwarded to the parolee.

The board may deside to reinstate the individual on parole, tell him to return at a specific date, return at a date after stipulated conditions have been met, or pass to the discharge date of sentence. On a pass to discharge, the individual's case is reviewed every year, but is simply a jacket review and not a personal appearance. An earlier reappearance than the date set by the board will only be granted if new information that was not available at the original hearing can be presented. This new information should have direct bearing on the reasons for the original denial of parole or re-parole.

Violations may be heard by one member of the board who is appointed by the chairman. These decisions are reviewed and confirmed by the full board. An individual who wishes to appeal the results of one of these hearings may write a request for appeal (dealing with specific charges against the parolee) to the full board, and they will rule on the request.

Any prisoner who is convicted and sentenced to any new crime while on parole or conditional release, shall serve such sentence consecutive to the terms under which he was released, unless otherwise ordered by the court in sentencing for the new offense.

Give an ex-con a fighting chance/
offer him viable alternatives/decent jobs

An Inmate Profile Form by Will Johnston

THE SUPERVISED RELEASE GRID

The grid for the Supervised Release Program is based on a point system. The point system is as follows:

++ = add double the point value to score;
+ = add normal point value to score;
+- = no points added or subtracted from score;
- = subtract normal point value from score;
-- = subtract double the point value from score.

On the grid shown (page 24) there are nine different categories, each with the four different point values shown above. The added point values of these categories will determine if you are eligible or not for the Program. The categories are as follows:

ESCAPES: This category considers your escape history. If you have no previous escapes or attempted escapes, you will score high on the grid. If you have had no escapes in the last five years, you will score in the second box.

INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT: This category involves the amount of 'write-ups' you have had, and if you have properly adjusted to the prison rules. If you have had no write-ups and have adjusted well, you will score in the first box, graduating downwards as write-ups increase.

POSITIVE SUPPORT SYSTEM: Do you have the support of you family, friends, or community? If you have a great amount of support from community leaders, family and friends, more than two positive relationships, then you will score in the first box. If have two relationships and they would be of help to you,then score in the second box, and so on.

CONSUMER/DOMESTIC SKILLS: In this category, the main criteria is how you manage your own business affairs. If you have a bank account and can do your own shopping and budgeting, then you will score in the first box. If you have a basic under-

standing of the above, then you will score in the second box.

WORK HABITS WHEN EMPLOYED: Are you able to hold down a job and are you one of the best employees? You might ask your boss before committing yourself. If you are one of the best employees and are skilled in your trade, then you will score in the first box. If you are above average, score in the second box.

DRUG/ALCOHOL: Take into account your past record of any drug or alcohol use. If you have used little of either, you will score in the first box. If you are apart of a drug or alcohol rehabilitation program, score in the second box.

COMMUNITY RISK: This is one of the most important categories of all. Are you going to be a risk to the community by committing more crimes? If you have no priors, no parole violations, and no dangerous or aggressive behavior, you will score in the first box. If you have had only one parole violation, you will score in the second box.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR SELF: Are you a responsible person and have you been involved in self-help programs? Have you competed a program? Does the problem no longer exist? Then mark the first box. If you are participating in a program with marked sucess, then score in the second box.

AGE: Simply score in the box that has your age.

Total your score using double ++, single -, zero +-, subtract single-,or subtract double-- by the boxes marked, Multiply that by 2, then take that score and multiply by .66, you will then have your total score. To qualify for the program,you must have a minimum score of 80.52, and must be within 15 months of your parole eligibility date and have served one half of your sentence. See Glen Kenison, B-Unit,for further details.

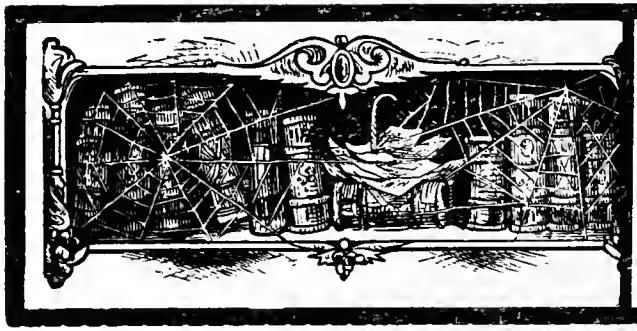
CATEGORY	VALUE	RATING ++,+,+-,-,--	SCORE
ESCAPE HISTORY	7		
INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT	5		
POSITIVE SUPPORT SYSTEM	8		
CONSUMER/DOMESTIC SKILLS	3		
WORK HABITS WHEN EMPLOYED	8		
DRUG/ALCOHOL HISTORY	8		
COMMUNITY RISK	9		
RESPONSIBILITY FOR SELF	8		
AGE	5		
SCORE	X 2 =	X .66 = TOTAL SCORE	; 80.52 MINIMUM.

INMATE PROFILE

SUPERVISED RELEASE PROGRAM

	ESCAPES	INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT	POSITIVE SUPPORT SYSTEM	CONSUMER/ DOMESTIC SKILLS
++	No escapes or attempts.	Excellent.	Active leadership in positive support system. More than 2 positive relaships family/friends.	Able to menu shop, prepare food. Does budget & balance income & savings.
+	No escapes or attempts in last five years.	Above average.	Two positive relationships. He/she feels they are helpful.	Basic understanding of budgeting, cooks, shops without assistance.
+–	No escapes or attemps in last 3 years or walkaway with mitigated circumstances.	Average.	Presence of one supportive relationship. He/she feels it is helpful.	Can cook for self, perform household chores. No financial debts.
–	One attemped escape or escape in last 3 years.	Fair.	Seeks out helpful relationships; shows interest in positive relationships.	Knowledge of menuing, budget, food preparation but does not perform these.
– –	Any violent escape or violent attempt to escape. Two or more escapes.	Poor.	No positive support system, no knowledge or information.	No skills.

WORK HABITS WHEN EMPLOYED	DRUG/ALCOHOL (consult record as needed)	COMMUNITY RISK	RESPONSIBILITY FOR SELF	AGE
One of the best employees.	No use of either substance, or rare use not causing a personal problem.	Little to no risk. No priors. No parole violations.	Completed program. Problem no longer exists. Shows and helps others.	28 or over
Higher level of expertise.	Successfully addressed problem in the past, or treatment is part of supervised release program.	Has demonstrated no aggressive behavior. No pattern of violent crime. No priors. One parole violation.	Continuous participation with demonstrated success.	25 - 27
Work habits sufficient to maintain self on job.	Admits problem & is in institutional program.	Behavior indicates little risk to the community. One prior, no revocation.	Explores and measures problem; develops program, activity, participates in relevant program.	21 - 24
Less than satisfactory.	Does not admit or recognize problem; no attempt at rehabilitation.	Rare outbursts, requires supervision. One prior and one parole violation.	Admits to specific problem. Assumes ownership.	20 - 21
No employment. Unable to maintain job. No job seeking skills.	Admits problem but refuses treatment or has history of unsuccessful treatment.	Very dangerous, hostile, aggressive. Two or more priors and/or revocations. Pattern of violence.	Refuses ownership of problem. No knowledge or information.	Under 20



MONTANA LAW

by Gary Quiss

WARDEN REFUSES ORDER

Both the U.S. District Court and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals have ruled that MSP prisoners may possess and receive nude photos of wives and girlfriends. However,Warden Risley has thus far refuses to follow the Court Orders. Both courts have denied the Warden's request for a Stay of Judgement, while the Prison's lawyer again attempts an appeal.

Concerning the matter, prisoners are at this time in contact with the ACLU. This organization will be blocking the Prison's re-appeal attempt. In the near future, the Court should order the Warden to begin allowing receipt of these photos, or be held in contempt of court.

OLD FURLOUGH LAW

The District Court in Helena has issued a final opinion and Declaritory Judgement in the case involving the Prisoner Furlough Program. Prisoner's whose crimes were comitted prior to October 1,1981, will be able to apply for release on the old Program instead of the new, more restrictive Supervised Release Program. One major difference between the two Programs is that under the new Supervised Release law, a Prisoner must be 15 months away from his Parole date to apply. Under the older Furlough law, a Prisoner has no such restriction.

The Court also took note of the fact that the Board of Pardons and Paroles does not have the authority to pass on the acceptability of sponsors. The Supervising Agency Members (Sponsors) must be located and approved by the Department of Institutions, if the Prisoner to be admitted to the Program is approved by the Board of Pardons and Paroles.

NO SERVICES ALLOWED

Twenty five prisoners in Lower Close Unit One have submitted a lawsuit over being denied the right to attend church services in the chapel. Their suit makes note that they are allowed to have visits, go to yard, gym and canteen, but not to church.

ACLU REPORT

A report has been submitted to the American Civil Liberties Union concerning many conditions here which are believed to violate MSP prisoner's rights. A class action 'Prison Conditions' lawsuit may be filed in the near future.

EXPLICIT MATERIAL

Under the Ninth Circuit Court's ruling last year, prisoners at MSP may order and receive sexually explicit books and magazines. This includes magazines showing explicit sexual acts between men and women and books describing such acts. The Court noted that prison officials have no business trying to impose their standards of morality on prisoners

INSTRUCTION KIT

A complete instruction kit for prisoners who wish to file a suit for property that is lost through negligence or stolen by prison employees, is currently being prepared. The kit should be soon available at the prison library.

PARAPHERNALIA

Carrol v. Oregon State Penatentiary, 575 P.2d 173(Ore. 1978) is a case where the court held that, where a prisoner had manufactured a home made pipe, the prison could not disipline him for possession of narcotic paraphernalia without proof that the pipe was intended for use with narcotics.

GREEN

A case is being filed in federal court by Joe Buckman from the result of having $75 cash money (green) confiscated in recent shake-downs. The prison administration refuses to put the money in his account eventhough they have no statutory authority to keep it.

From The Women At

W. C. C.

A TOUR OF W.C.C.

by Teresa Peterson

Hello Fellas. The Ladies of W.C.C. thought it would be nice to take you on a tour of our facility.

W.C.C. is a tall, light brown building with two floors above ground and a basement below. Counting the storage rooms and stair wells, there are sixty four rooms; twenty nine on the second floor, that's where we live, guys; twenty six on the main floor and nine in the basement. All rooms have a width of fifteen feet and the halls are five feet wide. Its not much, this old building, but as the W.S.S.H. nurses no longer use it, the legislature said we may.

Let's start on the top floor and work our way down. If we come up the fire escape (this would be a NO NO on normal days) and entered the building by the north hall, carefully securing the fire door behind us naturally, we find on our left two rooms for residents (that's us) and then a foyer leading down to the main door; we won't go that way. On our right are another two rooms for residents and then a storage room where house cleaning supplies are kept. Across from the foyer is the North Hall bathroom and further, the Control Room where our restricted items are stored. Across the hall is our linen closet and then three more residential rooms on the left, while on the right there is one residential room and a room we use for smoking. Oh yes, we aren't allowed to smoke in our rooms or the hall ways. It's an old buildingand noone wants to go up in a blaze of glory.

This brings us to the half way point in the building. This could be called the Mason/Dixon Line. There is about fifteen feet to cross to the South Hall while on the right is a door to the main stairway. The South Hall is identical in structure to the North Hall except that the storage rooms are used for different things and there are two more rooms for residence, the Control and Smoke rooms not being used in this hall. Eight rooms (cells) are in the North Hall and ten in the South Hall.

We have keys to our own rooms, which doesn't help keep out the cops, only other residents. The ladies are allowed free access to their own rooms all day and may have company after 5:00 P.M., if we notify Control. We need not be in our rooms until 11:30 on weekdays or 12:30 on weekends or holidays.

Our rooms are furnished with a twin bed,night stand, dresser a desk and chair and a rocker.
Roommates have their own furniture, but there is only one rocking chair to a room. Everyone is always looking for a lamp so once we have one we hold on to it tightly. In the middle of one wall there is a sink and a closet. On the opposite side of the same wall is the closet and sink of the next room. The two opposing closets help keep the noise level down. Under the window of every room is a radiator. If you are lucky, it will be one that works, if not, you can be certain of being cold in the winter months.

Strolling down the stairs to the main floor, we can almost look into the kitchen on our left as we turn down the South Hall. Staying in the hall, the first door on our right belongs to our Social Worker. The next room is shared by our Recreation Director and our Teacher. The third room we use as our library where we keep our law books and reference books for school. We are trying to get material to add a religious section to the library. Further down the hall is the bathroom, identical and below the upstairs bathroom, a storage closet and two rooms that are currently used to store extra furniture not in use. These two rooms will house our Parent/Child Program when we get it started.

Going back down the hall, again on our right, is a class room. Old desks we have, but no black board yet. A conference room is next with a conference table and chairs. Here we meet with our Psychologist, Psychiatrist, drug and alcohol counselors and our attorneys. Back to the stairway leading to the second floor, there is a foyer and door that opens outside to the front of our facility. Another doorway leads off the foyer into the dining room. The dining room is used for a school room, visiting room, resident meeting hall and when some visiting groups come, it becomes an entertainment area also. This room

faces our front yard where minimum residents are allowed to visit if the weather permits.

A door on the north wall of the dining room takes us into our kitchen. This is small fellas, but it has a small stove where we can cook our own meals and a refrigerator where we can store perishable food. Our meals are sent to us from the Food Center at W.S.S.H., but on special occasions we cook our own meals. All meals are served here, however.

Back out into the hall and going toward the North Hall and through a doorway, is where we let the officers practice counting us. We all line up against the wall, three times a day; 7:20 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. There are only seventeen of us now so the officers don't have to borrow one another's finger and toes. The first door to the left is the Main Control Room. We try to keep an officer here at all times to answer the phone, the front door and to pass medication. Next door is Mr. MacAskill's office; our director. You guys have the only Warden in the state. Next door to Steve's office is the secretary/book keeper's office.

Directly across from Main Control is our Day Hall. This is where we spend a great deal of time watching T.V., reading or playing cards. We have a couple of bookshelves in here that hold our light reading material. We are allowed to smoke in here and the dining room. Next door to this is the foyer again, leading out the front door or upstairs to the living quarters.

If we want to go further down the North Hall we have to call an officer as behind the next door lies the detention area. There are four detention rooms each having a sink, mirror and toilet. There are plastic mats and plastic pillows.

Also in this hall is a storage room where we keep the toys and games for visiting days, and a larger storage room where cleaning supplies are kept. There is also a bathroom in this area, again identical to the one upstairs.

We will leave the officer in the Control Room and go downstairs to the basement. At the bottom and sharply to the right is the small room where we work out. Our weights, weight benches and our bicycle are kept here. Still on the stairway and to the left is a door that leads to the bomb shelter; a reminder of the age of the building in which we live. What's behind this door is a mystery to us, so we'll travel down the hall to the right.

On the left we have a room where our pool table, Ping Pong table, card table and chairs, stereo and sofa are. Our recreation room is where we like to kick back and listen to some music or play cards. So enjoy, while you can.

Back in the hall, about ten feet down and to the right is

our laundry room. Opening off the laundry room is the ironing/sewing room. The hall has a door just past the laundry which we are working on to open. Behind this door lies a room with windows. This room is where we would like to move our recreation room. Then our weight room could go where our Rec. room is now and our our Rec. Director would then have his own office.

Well fellas, that's about it for W.C.C., wait a minute. We also have a T.V. in the Day Hall and are working to get use of the dining room to use as a music room as there is no Place on the main floor where we may listen to music on our radios.

If you would like to know more about W.C.C. let us know. Thank you for coming on our tour.

MSP Band Plays At WCC

by

Kar'ren Hansen

On July 17th, the Silver County Western Gospell Band intertained the 18 ladies of W.C.C. Preparations for this happy event began on July 14th. Those women who had money, contributed toward Purchasing materials for making refreshments to be served. Those without funds took turns cooking or making the dining room ready for the evening.

On Saturday, chocolate chip cookies, sugar cookies, Rice Krispy bars, fudge and brownies were made. Coffee and Punch were also made. While one group worked in the kitchen, another was hard at work moving tables out of the dining room so that there would be room for the band, the audience and the refreshment table.

The band Played from 5:00 until 8:00 doing various numbers, both country and gospel. They also did several dedications from men at MSP to their ladies at W.C.C.

The band was greatly appreciated and enjoyed by all the residents and staff of W.C.C. alike. We still call the evening to mind with tapes and Pictures taken of the band's Performance

All of the women would like to extend thanks to Ray Turner, Jim Brubaker, Bob Thorton, Leonard Dony and Alvin Bullchild, and the two escorts from MSP. This was a very entertaining and enjoyable evening, and we hope they will be returning.

FICTION: Living In Apocalypse

by Jonathan White

SCARAB

'Whew,' Thought the Scarab as it crawled out of the tight boxed crate from Cairo to New York. 'That was close,' It continued, 'and I can't afford to die now. I'm the last one.'

Scarabs are not the most intelligent form of life on the Planet Earth - there are some who argue there is no intelligent life on Earth, but that does not fall within the scope of a Scarab's opinions - but they do not lie, especially to themselves. This separates them from human beings, who lie all the time, particularly to themselves. And this particular Scarab was not lying when it said it was the last one. The vast majority of all Scarabs in the world had been destroyed by the Egyptians centuries previous, although a couple hundred had survived. Of those, only this lone Scarab, named Kheper, had endured through the deadly D-Con mist that descended on his people a few days before. He had been gathering food, and when he saw the horrible stuff coming for him, he scampered away.

He made his way into a crate of archaeological paraphernalia imitating a statue of himself, and was shipped all the way from Cairo to the glistening pollution capital of the world, New York. Now he was crawling through the bizarre streets of this alien city, which couldn't have been stranger had it been the moon.

He ran aside when a huge red object came within a body's length of crushing him. Then he saw a colossal structure that reminded him (not without a trace of nostalgic remorse) of his home among the once-great temples of old Thebes.He rushed up to it, surmounting the terrible steps without excessive difficulty and waited for the great portals to swing open.

They did so and one of the inferior-if-huge bipeds walked out. In disgust, Kheper spat. Those giants thought that they ruled this Planet - what a farce. It was the existence of the Scarab race, whose Power enabled the humans to exist. If Kheper died then, within a year, so would the the large, ugly humans. Why, he thought, his very name meant 'to exist' in the tongue of the old Egyptians.

He climbed the interior steps, careful to avoid the spots of crumbling Plaster which could spell doom for him in the event that he lost his footing. He was more than meticulous in his movements. The continued existence of the Scarab race depended upon his very actions. He had very little choice about whether to live or die in such a dire situation.

Finally, he crawled though a little hole into a huge chamber albeit certainly less ornate and less large than the anterooms and tombs he was used to.

He saw the reddish eyes in the dark at first, then saw the rat Pounce. He jerked back and exorcised his incredible Power. A bolt of searing white Power erupted in the space between the hungry rat and the Scarab. The rodent made a horrible shrieking noise as white, magnesium-like flame exploded from its very fiber. It was incinerated into a sulPhurous mist in seconds, with the acrid smell of its Passing flowing outwards from the area where, seconds before, it had stood.

Summoned by the sound of fire, Maria Luchesi saw the Scarab, and PromPtly stePPed on it.

'Cockroaches,' she muttered.

Wth the last of the Scarabs destroyed, the terrible onus of doom was all ready on the move across the world. Maria Luchesi ignored the 'cockroach' she had just killed.

"...there are some who argue there is no intelligent life on Earth..."

JW

RELIGION by Randy Blankenship

DENIAL OF SELF

Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends (John 15:13). Taking a giant step out into the water in faith. Believing God can perform what he said he could. Loving mankind with all your heart, even to the point of dying for them.

This is what Jesus did for us.He gave himself upon the cross that we may live; Romans 5:8; But God commendth toward us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

The greatest love story that has ever been told is what Jesus did for us. Still dead in our sins, he went upon an old rugged cross, and before all mankind, was hung there expressing his love for us. What an expression. What a denial of self. He showed it publicly that he loved us so much he was willing to die for us.

We must all take a good look at ourselves and check our motives and priorities. Are we in it for ourselves or because we love. God is love. He has shed his love abroad in our hearts through his son, Jesus Christ (Christ in you).

God is asking you to deny self and lay your life down for another (1 John 3:16; by this we perceive the love of God, because he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the bretheren).

OUR NEED OF GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEARTS

by Emma Nyre

God's word, his spirit food, takes root in our hearts, is formed by the tongue, and is spoken out of our mouthes. This is creative Power. The spoken word works as we confess it and apply action to it.

Prayer does not cause faith to work, but faith causes prayer to work. Any prayer problem is a problem of doubt...doubting the integrity of the Word and of the ability of God to stand behind His Promises or statements of fact in the Word.

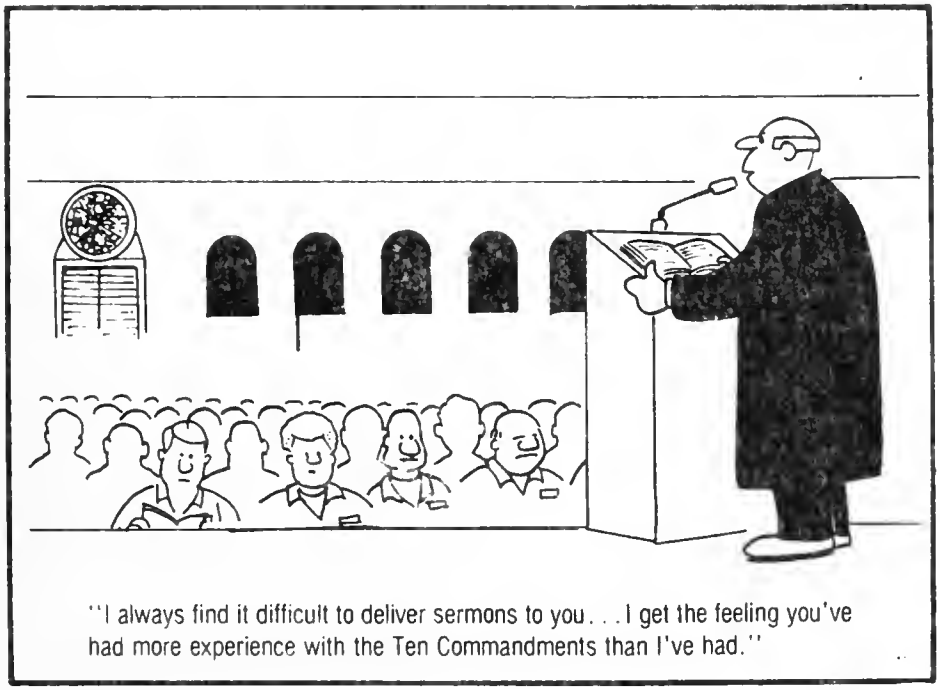
It is important to recognize that we spend fruitless hours in Prayer if our hearts are not prepared beforehand. Prepara-

tion of the heart, the spirit, comes from meditation in the Father's Word, meditation on what we are in Christ, what He is to us, and what the Holy Spirit can mean to us as we become God-inside minded. As God told Joshua (Joshua 1:8), we meditate on the Word day and night, do according to all that is written, and then shall we make our way prosperous and have good success. We are to attend God's Word, submit to His sayings, keep them in the center of our hearts, and put away all contrary talk (Proverbs 4:20-24).

When we use God's Word in prayer, this is not just something we rush through uttering/speaking once, and we are finished. There is nothing 'magical' nor 'manipulative' about it...no set pattern or device in order to satisfy what we want or think out in our flesh. Instead we are holding God's Word before Him. We confess what He says belongs to us.

Prayer based upon the Word rises above the senses, contacts the author of the Word and sets His spiritual laws into motion. It is not just saying prayers that gets results, but itis spending time with the Father, learning His wisdom, drawing on His strength, being filled with His quietness, and basking in His love that brings results to our prayers. Praise the Lord.

Psalm 34:3: 'O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His Name together.'



"I always find it difficult to deliver sermons to you. . . I get the feeling you've had more experience with the Ten Commandments than I've had."

alcoholics is inferred, but not an allocated requirement.

Restoration to productive independence suggests standards of education and training toward employment. Current policies at the Montana State Prison indicates an over-all, abstract realization to restoration and rehabilitative solutions. Parole requirements propose one-way guidelines forced upon them by state statute. Offenders must serve a pre-designated period of time minus good time days before they will be considered for an interview. Before any restoration can be brought to light, state requirements for time served must be maintained. It has nothing to do with rehabilitation.

Only when the offender reaches their designated time period does Parole release criteria center on acquired restoration skills, and then the phrases used to discribe standards are ambiguous and vague. Criterial asks whether releasing the offender would make society indignant, whether the institution would suffer disiplinary problems over the release, and whether continued incarceration would be more benificial in restoring the offender to a law-abiding life. The latter denotes a feeling of rehabilitation, but vaguely. Usually decisions to pass the candidate involve time considerations of 6 months to a year, and within these time frames are measures of rehabilitation to be brought up to par.

One inmate we talked to was required to report back to the board in 6 months after completing an agression therapy course. Three months to go, and this inmate has yet to be assigned to the course despite repeated attempts to enrole. The barrier to an admittance to a group takes time for ones name to move up the list.

Further factors to the board's decisions relate to, 'The inmate's ability and readiness to asume obligations and responsibilities; apparent development in his personality; offender's attitude toward law and order; and the offender's past record. Apparent development could mean outward appearances or documented facts of grades, group involvement, or disiplinary reports. Its not that the Board of Pardons doesn't know what it would like to see in a Parole candidate, they do, its that many times the offender doesn't know. They were the ones to fail to uphold society's standards, and they will be the ones who'll need to know what is expected of them to regain trust, or they could blindly stumble for years.

SUGGESTIONS

There are a few suggested directions that point toward ful-

filling the implied requirements. The easiest to identify would be types of treatment dealing with the crimes committed. An alcoholic or drug addiction back ground would obviously require treatment and therapy in these areas. Currently, ADSP and AA are provided to meet these needs. The weight these programs could have with release would depend upon the offender's desire to have them succeed. Current figures from halfway houses and the Parole board fix 80 to 90 Percent of Parolee Problems with alcohol, not to mention alcohol figures in with most original crimes.

Youthful offenders seeking to upgrade their education are afforded the right to progresive and up-to-date education by MCA 53-30-207, which says:

'The academic and vocational curricula in facilities that contain academic and vocational training shall incude such academic and vocational subjects as are taught in the Public schools of the state and shall conform to the standards set by the Board of Public Education.'

Also youthful offenders are entitled to extra funding by title I. Under title I a youthful offender is an offender under the age of 21.

These statutes should be a boon to young offenders wanting to increase their knowledge in high-tech vocations. Public schools across the country and Montana are focussing attention on computer literacy and hands on computer training. Under MCA 53-30-207, youthful offenders should be able to get this type of training. Currently they can not. A violation of state law.

Reports from inmates, indicate that there are very good teachers working in the Education Department. Undoubtedly there is full opportunity to increase ones knowledge, which will benifit in the job market, however credit for having taken classes at MSP at present does not apply toward a high school diploma.

An interview with the MSP Education Director, John Jaksha, brought to light that the certificates awarded from MSP's Cottonwood School, are simply visual compliments. The department's own curriculum catalogue states that students can not acquire credits toward a high school diploma. 'We are just not set up for it,' Jaksha said.

MSP's vocational programs are also in the same straights. Although it can be said that some knowledge and training is imparted, how can the training be measured to the rest of the nation if it is not accredited? If some instructors are not certified, how can the students be certified? If students can not be certified by state agencies, they will have no documented evidence that they have ever had qualified training.

If an inmate can afford it, college courses are offered through the education department by the College of Great Falls. Intrance fees of $50 and credit hour fees of $30, prevent all but the highest paid or uncommonly thrifty MSP inmate from taking advantage of the courses.

If an inmate led an unstable life-style on the street, patterns of job switching, travel, absconding, selecting a prison job and keeping it, will show a willingness to work. Although many jobs within the institution are necessary,they demand little skill. While other jobs require more attention and effort, they allow an inmate to prove his worth as a reliable and capable employee,something that carries weight with the board even-though the training one receives from these assignments may allow employment opportunities in already full markets.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Communities have a vested interest in seeing rehabilitation efforts succeed. Not only is the fact that released ex-offenders will be returning to communities, most relevant, but good rehabilitative programs can directly aid communities with problems unrelated to crime. A program in Nevada allows incarcerated offenders, some lifers, to utilize their training skills to build and remodel homes for low income and indigent families,as well as the elderly and infirm. The MEP program (for Model Education Program) involving the Berkshire County House of Correction in Pittsfield, Mass, took a facility as it found it, brought in volenteer educators from nearby colleges and universities, gave the inmates a voice in their education and training, and allowed the correctional officers and the public a share in the classes. Fred Cohen, editor of the Criminal Law Bulletin, wrote this about his experiances with MeP:

For any person or group desiring to emulate MEP in some way, it is vital that the employees of the institution have a stake in the program. It is too easy for correctional officers to sabotage reform efforts when they see individuals who have been convicted of crimes receiving opportunities not available to themselves or their families. Given the same opportunities as the offender, a correctional officer's motives may well shift from hostility and obstruction to active support. This, in any event, is precisely what occured during the operation of MEP, and I can think of no more important factor in assessing the the program's success. (Criminal Law Bulletin,volume 12, NO. 6)

This successful program is Particulaly significant in that for the first time, inmates were permitted into the community to perform useful, dignified, and career-directed service.

LETTERS, continued

To the Editor;

This letter is in reply to the article which appeared in your July, 1983, issue. The article was entitled 'Your Truth or Mine' by David Michaels. I refute much of what Michaels said in this article. Truth is truth as white is white, and black is black. If you want to expound beliefs, opinions, tenets or whatever, label them as that and not as truths.

He said, in part; 'Truth is an individual and personal commodity. What each of us individually believe, is the truth,period.' Now the definition out of Webster's Dictionary is: TRUTH 1. conformity to knowledge, fact, actuallty, or logic; 2. fidelity to an original or standard; 3. reality, actuality; 4. a statement proven to be true or accepted to be true; 5. sincerity, integrity. Now if you were to compare these to sources and try to merge the two into one statement that would make both true it seems to me that would be an impossibility.

Michaels' statement sounds good but the truth is obviously something that can be proven and substantiated. If he wants to write us articles on his beliefs and opinions that is fine, but please do not do us the injustice of telling us that they are 'The Truth.'

Truth is and always will be completely independent from belief or opinion and in a publication should always be defined as the opnion of the person writing the article, and that certainly isn't necessarily the truth.

Robert Wild, A017023

ED. NOTE: Thank you for taking the responsibility as a member of the prison community for voicing your thought. The Siberian Express is a publication which relies upon the input of its readers, and I am personally very pleased that you would share your thoughts with us. ed.

Author's Note: I bow to Bob's definition of pure truth. The article does not display itself as truth, but perhaps a poor attempt to show how we accept truth, as mentioned in the fourth definition by Webster's. Portions of the article were adapted from an image building series oftalks by Gordon Grahm, for the Pacific Institute's Pre-release Program. Space limitations prevented full credits, as due.

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